

REMARKS

The present response addresses the issues raised in the Office Action entitled either "Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment" (Page 1) or "Notice of Non-Responsive Amendment" (Page 2). The Action sets forth a response period of one month and accordingly the present response is timely.

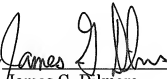
While Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's assertions that the withdrawn claims are directed to an independent invention, to promote prosecution of the present applications **Applicants hereby cancel Claims 126-135** without traverse.

Applicants note that, in contrast to the Examiner's assertions, the reply filed on September 22, 2005 is **fully responsive** in that they address each and every rejection raised by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Examiner should have provided a complete action on all of the claims to the elected invention. See MPEP § 821.03. "A complete action on all claims to the elected invention should be given." Since claims directed to the originally-presented invention remained under consideration, the Examiner's action was inappropriate.

In view of the remarks presented herein, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for final allowance and notice to such effect is requested. If the Examiner believes that additional issues need to be resolved before this application can be passed to issue, the undersigned invites the Examiner to contact him at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 15, 2006

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